

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

Initially, in items 2 and 3, the rejection takes issues with the argument that Mizutani fails to teach a CCD device. Applicants do not necessarily agree, however, they are not arguing with this point in order to reduce the number of issues being argued.

In items 4 and 5 of the Official Action, the rejection disagrees with the argument that Mizutani fails to disclose the charge transfer direction being coincident with the direction of crystal growth. Applicants traverse this statement. Initially, the rejected claims clearly state that there is a particular relationship between the crystal growth direction and the charge transfer direction of the CCD. The Summary of the Invention of this application generally discloses that rod-like or columnar crystals extend in a crystal growth direction. It also discloses that the charge transfer direction is aligned with this crystal growth direction in order to improve the charge transfer efficiency. In order to obtain a semiconductor film which has this kind of particular crystal growth direction, a metal such as nickel is applied to a selected portion of the semiconductor film. Crystals grow from this selected portion in

parallel with the surface of the semiconductor film as shown in FIGs. 3A-3C.

Mizutani does not teach or suggest a crystalline semiconductor film having a plurality of crystals extending in a crystal growth direction which is parallel to the insulating surface as recited by the rejected independent claims 16, 19, 24, 25, and 26. Therefore, Mizutani does not anticipate these rejected claims.

Moreover, Mizutani does not teach or suggest the claimed semiconductor film having a particular crystalline structure which causes a particular relation between the crystal growth direction and the charge transfer direction as noted above.

For all of these reasons, it is respectfully suggested that the rejection based on Mizutani is incorrect, and that all of the claims should be in condition for allowance. A formal Notice of Allowance is hence respectfully solicited.

Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account

No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1-22-03

PTO Customer No. 20985



Fish & Richardson P.C.
4350 La Jolla Village Drive, Suite 500
San Diego, California 92122
Telephone: (858) 678-5070
Facsimile: (858) 678-5099

Scott C. Harris

Reg. No. 32,030

Kenyon Jenckes
KENYON S. JENCKES
REG. NO 41,873

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